M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 14

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1109 Press ~~Mis.~~

278-79

Dated 20 · 4 1871.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th April 1871.

No. 278. Read the following letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Vizianagrum, 14th March 1871, No. D. D. :—

ADVERTING to G. O. of the 17th February 1871, No. 482, I have the honour to observe that I do not quite see what emergency the Government orders refer to, or in what manner the Controller can be a better judge of the necessity of officers travelling more than 20 miles a day than the officers entrusted by Government with the working of districts; he has had no professional education, and no experience even as a subordinate in the department, and can therefore have no knowledge whatever as to the manner in which range duties should be conducted.

1 Copy of letter No. 550, of 7th March 1871, from Captain Hasted, R. E., in charge No. 1 Range, Godavery.

2. Besides, the Controller does not hesitate to report any Range Officers for not sending in their accounts by the 20th of a month : are these officers to be allowed mileage to return from any parts of the district to despatch their accounts in time, and does this constitute an emergency ?

3. I beg to add that, being on circuit at present, I am unable to go as fully into this matter as I could wish ; I have passed mileage to officers and subordinates only because I am convinced that with the large expenditure we have in hand time must be economized as much as possible. On my return to head-quarters I will explain more fully the circumstances connected with Mr. Hannan's case ; in the meantime I beg to forward a letter from Captain Hasted, R.E., explaining his own case, and to add that I fully agree with him in all he states ; in fact, it is only money thrown away in fixed salaries to have officers marching daily 10 or 12 miles on canals or roads, when there are works requiring their immediate attention 20 or 30 miles off, which can be got at in a night's journey.

4. I am not writing in any disparagement of the Controller I beg very respectfully to say, but if he is allowed to insist on the duties connected with his office being punctually performed, Superintending Engineers, who have far greater responsibilities devolving upon them, are at least entitled to as much consideration in dealing with their Range Officers. As matters now stand, I find everything connected with the progress of works in the districts postponed to getting the accounts off in time ; but whether these represent the best possible manner of benefiting a district or carrying on the works is a matter of very secondary consideration in the ranges.

From Captain J. O. HASTED, R.E., Executive Engineer in charge No. 1 Range, Godavery, to the Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, dated Camp at Thasipoody, 7th March 1871, No. 550.

IN forwarding the travelling allowance bills of this range, I have the honour, with reference to the Controller's Circular No. 2,580, dated 21st February 1870, to bring to your notice that being in charge of both Eastern and Central Deltas, with only one Assistant Engineer under me, it is absolutely necessary for me to march very frequently upwards of 20 miles a day.

2. In the Central Delta especially the distances to be travelled are very considerable ; and as, to enable me to do my work, I keep up a boat with a crew, a mancheel, set of bearers, a horse, and a set of tents, I consider myself entitled to mileage under the travelling allowance rules in force.

3. The long marches made by Mr. Supervisor Ellis, most of them when accompanying me through the delta, were, I consider, unavoidable, and I think he is entitled to the mileage claimed.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th April 1871.

No. 279. ORDER THEREON, 20th April 1871, No. 1,109.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 25.

THE orders contained in the Proceedings* of Government referred to by the Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division are clear and precise, and Major Fischer will be required, in submitting claims to mileage, to explain satisfactorily the exceptional circumstances under which forced marches are made to entitle officers to the special rate.

* No. 482, dated 17th February 1871.

2. The Government do not see the necessity for a Range Officer always returning to his fixed station for the despatch of his "Monthly Accounts." The rules provide for Range Officers taking with them, on their tours of inspection, portions of their office establishments, and there seems no sufficient reason why the monthly accounts should not be compiled and despatched while those officers are away from head-quarters. There may be exceptional cases requiring reference to papers at the head-quarter office before the monthly accounts can be completed, and in all such cases the Controller of Public Works Accounts is authorized to pass travelling allowance during a Range Officer's stay at fixed station, provided such stay does not too closely follow on the previous halt at head-quarters.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.
,, All other Superintending Engineers.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.
,, Major R. B. Kenndy.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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Executive Engineer's Office
Camp Thossepoody
7th March 1871

No 550.

From

Captain J O Hasted R.E.

Executive Engineer In Charge

No 1 Range Godavery

To

The Superintending Engineer

1st Division

Sir,

In forwarding the Travelling allowance bills of this Range, I have the honor with reference to the Controller's Circular No 2580 dated 21st February 1870 to bring to your notice, that being in charge of both eastern and Central Delta, with only one assistant Engineer under me, it is absolutely necessary for me to march ~~very~~ frequently upwards of 20 miles a day.

In the central Delta especially the distances to be travelled are very considerable; and as to enable me to do my work. I keep up a boat with a crew, a Mancheel, set of bearers, a horse and a set of tents, I consider myself entitled to ~~my~~ mileage under the Travelling allowance rules in force.

The long marches made by Mr Sapurnson

Ellis, most of them when accompanying me

through the Delta were I consider unavoidable and I think he is entitled to the mileage claimed.

I have the honor &c &c

(Signed) J. C. Hasted Captn R.E.

Executive Engineer Godavery

(True Copy)

Geo: T. Tucker Major R.E.

As Superintending Engineer 1st D.

Superintending Engineer's Office 1st Division
Camp. Vizianagram. 14th March /71

No. DD

From

Major J. H. Fischer R.E.
Ag Superintending Engineer
1st Division.

To

Colonel C. A. Orr R.E.
Secretary to Government D.P.W.
Madras.

Sir,

Adverting to G. O. of the 17th Feby /71 No 482 I have the honor to observe that I do not quite see what emergency the Government orders refer to or in what manner the Controller can be a better judge of the necessity of officers travelling more than 20 miles a day than the officers entrusted by Government with the working of Districts, he has had no professional education and no experience even as a subordinate in the Department and can therefore have no knowledge whatever as to the manner in which range duties should be conducted.

conducted.

2. Besides the Controller does not hesitate to report any range officer for not sending in their accounts by the 20th of a month;- are these officers to be allowed mileage to return from any parts of the District to despatch their accounts in time and does this constitute an emergency?

3. I beg to add that being on circuit at present I am unable to go as fully into this matter as I could wish, I have passed mileage to officers and subordinates only because I am convinced that with the large expenditure we have in hand time must be economized as much as possible; on my return to Head Quarters I will explain more fully the circumstances connected with Mr. Hannan's case in the mean time I beg to forward a letter from Captain Hasted R.E. explaining his own case and to add that I fully agree with him in all he states. in fact it is only money thrown away in fixed salaries to have officers marching daily 10 or 12 miles on canals or roads when there are works requiring their immediate

attention

attention 20 or 30 miles off which can be got at in a night's journey.

4. I am not writing in any disparagement of the Controller I beg very respectfully to say, that if he is allowed to insist on the duties connected with his Office being punctually performed, the Superintending Engineers who have far greater responsibilities devolving upon them are at least entitled to as much consideration in dealing with their range officers, as matters now stand I find every thing connected with the progress of works in the Districts is postponed getting the accounts off in time, but whether these represent the best possible manner of benefitting a District or carrying on the works is a matter of very secondary consideration in the ranges

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedt Servt.

[illegible] Major R.E.

Actg Superintg Engr 1st Division

Pro 17 February/71 No 377-378

Public Works Department
Dn. Shatter April

No. 1281

From

The Supg Engr
1st Dn.

To The Secretary to
Government D.P.W.
Madras.

No DD

Enclo.

dated 14th March 1871.
Recd 28th

Requests to report on the objections made by the Controller for passing mileage allowances &c.

No. 1109 - 20 April/71

No 278

Public Works Department

No. 1199

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 20th April

Read the following

From The Supg Engineer 1st Dn } { P.W.E. No. DD/500 of 14th March 18

The orders contained in the Proceedings of Government referred to by the Supg Engineer of the 1st Division are clear and precise, and Major Fischer will be required, in submitting claims to mileage, to explain satisfactorily the exceptional circumstances under which forced marches are made to entitle officers to the special rate.

+ No. 482 of 17th Feby/71

N.

The

The Government do not see the necessity for a Range Officer always re-turning to his Fixed Station for the despatch of his "Monthly Accounts". The rules provide for Range Officers taking with them, on their tours of inspection, portions of their office Establishments, and there seems no sufficient reason why the Monthly Accounts should not be compiled and despatched while those Officers are away from Head Quarters. There may be exceptional cases requiring reference to papers at the Head Quarter Office before the Monthly Accounts can

be completed, and in all such cases, the Controller of Public Works Accounts is authorized to pass travelling allowance during a Range Officers stay at Fixed Station provided such stay does not too closely follow on the previous halt at Head Quarters

WL

To.

The Supg Engr 1st Dn
" all other Supg Engineers
" Controller P. W. Accts
" Major Kennedy.

Despd 22/4/71

No. 1281

Govt of [1871] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Ag. Superintending Eng. 1st Division

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O. 20 April No. 1109.

Nos. 278 & 279

Mileage allowances. Passing orders on the letter from the Supg Engr of the 1st Dn regarding the claims preferred by Capt Hasted & Mr. Hamman to mileage allowances.